



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

AGENDA ITEM: Presentation and Discussion on the Head Start Program

BACKGROUND: Launched in 1965, Head Start provides comprehensive education, health, nutrition, and family services to low-income children and their families. Local grantees receive federal funding for Head Start (HS), Migrant/Seasonal Head Start (MSHS), and Early Head Start (EHS) programs, the latter serving children from birth to age three and expectant mothers.

Head Start programs in Arizona annually serve nearly 23,000 children and over 21,500 families through a network of 30 community-based non-profit organizations, Indian Tribal Council, local governments, and school districts. Head Start programs provide comprehensive Head Start services at over 500 locations throughout the state.

Arizona Head Start Programs are a critical partner in the early childhood system, providing high quality early childhood education, nutrition, health, mental health, disabilities, and social services with a strong parent involvement focus.

RECOMMENDATION: Information only

An Overview of Early/Head Start in Arizona 2012



Arizona Head Start
ASSOCIATION



Organizational Structure... from Federal to Local...

- Federal Government
 - Dept. Of Health & Human Services (HHS)
 - Administration For Children and Families (ACF)
 - Office Of Head Start (OHS)
 - Region IX (Regional); Region XI (AI/AN); Region XII (Migrant)
 - Arizona Grantees
 - Arizona Delegates



- *Head Start State Collaboration
- *Arizona T/TA Office
- × × Arizona Head Start Association

Arizona Regional Grantees + Migrant/Seasonal Grantee**

- **NACOG** (Northern Arizona Council of Governments) (0-5)
- **WACOG** (Western Arizona Council of Governments) (3-5)
- **CPC** (Child Parent Centers, Inc.) (0-5)
- **PGCCS** (Pinal Gila Community Child Services, Inc.) (0-5)
- **SWHD** (Southwest Human Development) (0-5)
- **Crisis Nursery** (0-3)
- **COP*** (City of Phoenix) (0-3) & (3-5)
- **Maricopa County*** (Maricopa County) (0-5)
- **CPLC**** (Chicanos Por La Causa) (0-3) & (0-5)



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Arizona Delegates

- **Maricopa County Head Start (Grantee)** (0-5)
 - Catholic Charities Westside Head Start (0-5)
- **City of Phoenix (Grantee)** (0-3)
 - Alhambra Head Start (3-5)
 - Booker T. Washington Child Development Center, Inc. (3-5)
 - Deer Valley Head Start (3-5)
 - Fowler Head Start (3-5)
 - Golden Gate Head Start (3-5)
 - Greater Phoenix Urban League Head Start (3-5)
 - Murphy Head Start (3-5)
 - Roosevelt School District #66 Head Start (3-5)
 - Washington Elementary School District Head Start (3-5)
 - Wilson Head Start (3-5)



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American Indian/Alaskan Native Tribal Grantees

- Cocopah Head Start (3-5)
- Colorado River Indian Tribes Head Start (3-5)
- Gila River Head Start (0-5)
- Havasupai Head Start (3-5)
- Hopi Head Start (3-5)
- Hualapai Tribe Head Start (3-5)
- Navajo Nation Head Start (0-5)
- Pascua Yaqui Head Start (3-5)
- Quechan Head Start (3-5)
- Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (0-5)
- San Carlos Apache Tribe Head Start (3-5)
- Tohono O'odham Head Start (3-5)
- White Mountain Apache Head Start (3-5)



How Head Start Contributes...

Head Start ...

- serves income eligible children birth* to age five and their families
- Is federally funded to local programs (grantees)
- Is locally designed based on community needs and assets
- Requires a minimum of 10% of their actual enrollment to be children with disabilities/special needs by the midpoint of the school year



Head Start looks like...

Early Head Start = prenatal* to 3 years old

Head Start (Preschool) = 3 to 5 years old

Program Options

- **Center Based Option** (4 or 5 days per week)
- **Home Based Option** (1 ½ hour visit per week) & 2x per month Socializations
- **Combo Option** (classroom + home visits)
- **Family Child Care**
- Half Day / Extended Day / Full Day
- Part Year/Full Year



Positive Statewide Impact

- Over 22,000 Arizona children & families are enrolled in Early/Head Start
- Federal Early/Head Start grants bring in more than \$140 million into Arizona's economy
- Arizona Early/Head Start employs nearly 4,300 individuals



How Head Start is Unique...

- Health Services
- Nutritional Services
- Safe Environments
- Transportation Services*
- Disabilities Services
- Mental Health Services
- Family and Community Engagement (FCE)
- Education and Early Childhood Development Services (ECD)
- Fiscal Management
- Program Design and Management (PDM)
- Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance (ERSEA)



Partnering for Services

- With LEA's & AzEIP to provide inclusive settings for children with disabilities
- Enrollment
 - required to be full and maintain waiting lists
 - required to serve the 'neediest of the needy' and have a selection process that is transparent
 - serves out 40% of eligible children and Early Head Start serves less than 10% of eligible children



Head Start State Collaboration Office (HSSCO)

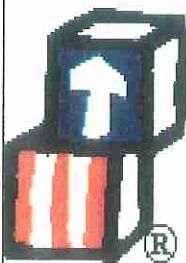
- Arizona's HSSCO is housed in the Arizona Department of Education in the Early Childhood Education Unit
- Amy Corriveau serves the dual role of HSSCO Director and Deputy Associate Superintendent for Early Childhood Education
- HSSCO works collaboratively with the AHSA structure and other entities to fulfill the state's collaboration goals



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State Advisory Council

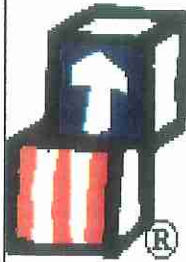
- The Head Start Act of 2007 requires each state to have a Statewide Advisory Council (SAC)
- The FTF Board has been designated as Arizona's State Advisory Council, sometimes called the Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC)



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Training & Technical Assistance

- Arizona T/TA system
- Tribal T/TA
- Migrant T/TA
- National T/TA Centers
- Within Program Grants



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Successes for Arizona Head Start

- No programs were identified on the Recompetition/Redesignation List!!!
- Increase in enrollment slots, especially Infant/Toddler, per ARRA funds
- Focus on School Readiness
- Improved local partnerships between LEAs, AzEIP and Head Start
- Increased relationships with Migrant, Homeless and Refugee populations
- Increased educational requirements of staff



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Challenges for Arizona Head Start

- Recent 18 month interruption of Tribal and Migrant T/TA Center and Collaboration contracts
- Increased demand for Early Head Start
- Arizona Head Start programs are predominately 1/2 day of service
- Differing levels of quality and requirements with potential partners
- Movement of services within communities
- Finding qualified staff



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Programmatic/Policy Changes

- Recompensation/Redesignation
 - This regulation specifies seven conditions that HHS will consider when determining whether a grantee is delivering a high-quality and comprehensive program and, thus, whether the grantee may be renewed without having to compete for continued funding.



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Federal Resource Sites

Head Start Locator

<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/HeadStartOffices>

Head Start Information

Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center

<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc>



Office of Head Start

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohs/>

For more information

- Arizona Head Start Association
<http://www.azheadstart.org/>
- Arizona Head Start/State Collaboration Office
<http://www.ade.state.az.us/earlychildhood/HeadStartOffice>



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Questions, Answers & Wrap Up

- Q & A
- Thank You!
 - We love to share the Head Start story 😊



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